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HOW TO KNOW A GOOD HORSE.

The circumstances which denote a good horse, whatever the nature of the breed or variety may be, are, that the head be suitably small in proportion to the animal, the nostrils expanded, the muzzle fine, the eyes bright and prominent, the ears close, small and erect; the neck proceeding with a gentle curve from between the shoulders, so as to join gracefully to the head; the shoulders well thrown back, imperceptibly sinking into the neck at the points; the arm or forethigh muscular, tapering so as to meet a fine sinewy, straight bony leg; the hoof circular, and wide at the heel; the chest deep and full at the girth; the loin or fillets broad and straight; the body round, the hips or hooks not wide, the quarters long, the tail set on so as to be nearly in the same right lines as the back, the thigh strong and muscular, the legs clean and fine boned, the leg bones rather flat than round.—For the use of husbandry, the chief properties to be considered are, however, those of strength, activity, hardness, and true draught.

DISEASES OF HORSES.

The neglect of acquiring sound practical knowledge, upon points that particularly attach to the pursuits of agriculture, is materially injurious to farmers—there are excellent treatises upon many important subjects of this description, which might be studied with great effect—from the want of this information, the most valuable part of the farmer's property is often consigned to the very lowest, and uninstructed people, who torture his horses and black cattle with the vilest quackery, while he stands by and sees his stock fall victims to the cow doctor and the farrier. The slaughter perpetrated by these pretenders, is not to be calculated, and though the natural force of constitution sometimes carries the animal through the ruffianly discipline to which it is exposed, it but too often remains weakly for the rest of its existence, and absolutely incapable of thriving. Surely some of the time devoted to cockfighting, cards, and whiskey punch, might be more profitably employed in adopting a few accredited receipts, for the removal of some of the maladies of cattle, which are simple, and from the habits of animals at all times easily removable—immense sums of money would be saved by a slight exertion of this kind, and farmers would be no longer at the mercy of the audacious impostors, who profess to cure diseases of which they know neither the nature nor the remedy.

The diseases of horses are numerous, and there is no animal so cruelly exposed to the ignorant and savage experiments of farriers. Their cures, as they term them, are compounds of the most violent and dangerous drugs, generally combined in such a way, that the ingredients are calculated to counteract each other.

In common recent wounds, the best method of treatment is to bring the sides of the divided parts immediately into contact, when it can be done, keeping them in that situation by slips of adhesive plaster, as by this means they are generally most expeditiously healed.—When there is much laceration of the parts, after such of them as can be brought into union have been washed and cleaned with a soft sponge, and placed in their proper situations, and confined, if absolutely required, by stitches; if on the first removal of the dressings, which should not be for a day or two, any part remain unhealed, it should be dressed with lint, moistened by the tincture of myrrh, adhesive plaster being laid over it—if the granulations of the new flesh rise above the surface, they must be kept down by the use of blue vitriol. If the destruction of parts be considerable, the application of warm saturnine fomentations or poultices may be useful. Inflammation should be guarded against by bleeding, and the use of nitrous mashes—where circular bandages can be applied, they will be found useful.

Colds, and complaints of that sort, may be best removed, when mild, by rest, and the use of mashes of bran, two or three times a day; and when more violent, by bleeding, but by no means to such an excess as is generally practised; and the giving of balls, composed of calomel and antimonial powder, each one drachm, powdered nitre one ounce, and treacle sufficient for making

them up, which should be washed down with warm oatmeal gruel—the bowels being emptied by means of clysters. In colics, when of the spasmodic kind, advantage may be derived from the use of balls, composed of one ounce and a half of Venice turpentine, and one drachm of purified opium, with two drachms of powdered ginger, the bowels being occasionally cleared by the use of clysters of gruel, in the proportion of three or four quarts. The staggers is a disease which is much relieved by bleeding; after which, a purgative ball, composed of two drachms of calomel, with an ounce of aloes, and two drachms of powdered ginger, made up with honey may be given; strong clysters may be had recourse to with benefit, or frequent mashes of bran, oatmeal, or malt.—Where worms prevail in horses, whatever the kind may be, great advantage may be produced by a powder composed of a drachm of calomel, with half an ounce of powdered anniseed, given in the evening, in a little treacle, and the following morning a bolus, formed of an ounce of aloes in powder, with two drachms of powdered ginger, and a little treacle. With these remedies there is little danger of the horse being injured by cold, or occasion for alteration in his food.

ON PLANTING WASTE LANDS WITH ALDER.

Alder thrives wonderfully in swampy grounds, and its uses are so various as to adapt it to an almost endless variety of purposes. The wood of this tree is in great esteem and demand for machinery; the cogs for mill wheels formed of it, being proved by experience to be superior to any other. It is commonly used for bobbius; and the country people wear shoes, or as they are generally termed clogs, made of it. Its excellent quality of resisting injury from water is universally acknowledged; hence its great value for pump-trees, pipes, drains, conduits to reservoirs, piles under water, and all kinds of wood-work which is kept constantly wet. It is much to be lamented, that the valuable properties of its bark should be so little known, that in most instances it is buried with the tree. The black dyers of cotton stuffs know its value, and make much use of it; they purchase it at the rate of seven to eight pence the stone, laid down at their dye houses. It is not chopped, but sold as it is stripped from the tree, after it has become moderately dry; so that there is no expense in chopping it, as is the case with oak bark. It might be used to great advantage as an excellent substitute for many woods used in dying, which we have from abroad, and on which we expend considerable sums.

METHOD OF PRESERVING ASPARAGUS FOR WINTER.

The asparagus for this purpose should be carefully washed, and well dried on a linen cloth, so that no sand or earth may be left upon it. This being done, some flour perfectly dry must be mixed with one-sixth part of salt dried and pulverized, and with this mixture each head of asparagus should be separately sprinkled, observing that the end where it is cut must be entirely covered.—the heads must then be tied up in bundles, 50 each, according to their size, with bass. The bundles must be again sprinkled with salt and flour, and each be separately enveloped in a paste made of brown flour, which must be well kneaded, and rolled to the thickness of a knife—they must then be left in the air to dry, and afterwards ranged in small casks, or stone jars, and melted fat be poured upon them; the vessel must be kept in a dry place, and in winter the asparagus may be taken as wanted. When used, the heads must be soaked in water an hour before they are cooked, and then treated in the same manner as when they are cut in spring—there will be scarcely any difference in the taste.

Look upon a field of corn. The ears which lift their heads the highest, have the least in them. It is the same with men. Be assured that the heads of those, who are most elated by vanity, have the least judgment, merit, or capacity.